

PRENTICE COMPUTER CENTRE

UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND, ST. LUCIA, QUEENSLAND, AUSTRALIA. 4067.



NEWSLETTER

N-273

31-May-82

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PROBLEM AREA	MAIL BOX	NAME AND EXTENSION
OPERATIONS AND PROGRAMMING		
Accounts	ACCOUNTS	Carol Walker 2188
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Commands, system use and probs	COMMANDS	Robert Morrison 2962
		Ian Otto 2923
Database (VG, 1022)	DATABASE	Amelia Shanahan 2951
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Statistics	STATISTICS	Barry Maher 3021
Text processing, Typesetting	TEXT	Andrew Broughton 2837
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ENGINEERING AND MAINTENANCE

Development and communications	ENGIN	Graham Rees 3288
Mini/Micro support	ENGIN	Colin Lythall 3942
		Alan Langdon 2928
Mini and terminal maintenance	MAINT	Maralyn Kenley 3938

GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY:

Consulting	7561
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1.0 EQUIPMENT PURCHASING

The majority of departments purchase computing equipment and associated terminals and devices through the Prentice Computer Centre. This procedure has been recommended to departments by the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Fabric and Finance). There have been some instances where departments have chosen to act independently. In one recent case the same equipment could have been purchased from another supplier at a saving of \$1000 to the department.

Director
extension 2189

2.0 VAX 11/780 PRICING

Following a Senate decision action was taken to charge work on the VAX 11/780 to provide a job cost similar to that which would apply under the KA SLOTS system. It is difficult to achieve exact correspondence as there are differences in operating and resource management systems. Despite our tests, we would expect to make some adjustments following implementation. One major variation relates to the costs of the S.O.S. editor on the VAX and the QEDIT system on the KA. As S.O.S. would seem to be the preferred editor on the VAX 11/780 we have now lowered VAX charges to take this into account.

Director
extension 2189

3.0 COMPUTING CAPACITY

Demand for computer time in all categories has continued to increase. On the recommendation of the Computing Policy Committee approval has been given to negotiate the purchase of a second DEC KL10 computer. Current planning is to install this equipment during August of this year.

Director
extension 2189

4.0 VAX 11/780 FAULT

On Friday evening the 14th May, a power fault on the VAX caused damage to the C.P.U. - the Disc Controller and three RP06 disk drives. The Centre's engineering staff worked throughout the weekend to repair the system. The damage was very extensive and I believe it is worth drawing to the attention of our users the response of the technical group (at short notice and personal inconvenience) to have the system up and running by Monday morning.

Director
extension 2189

5.0 MAIL SYSTEM "EXPIRES" AND "NODELIVERY" COMMANDS

The MAIL system on the KA-10 and KL-10 has been enhanced to implement the documented function of dealing with undelivered mail. These commands are given at the time the letter is sent by giving them at the start of a line within the text of the message.

5.1 The NODELIVERY Command

The NODELIVERY Command specifies the disposition of the message when it is not received by the expiration date. The options are: DEAD (it goes away), PRINT (it is printed on the lineprinter), and RETURN (it is returned to the sender). The default is RETURN.

.nodelivery:print

5.2 The EXPIRES Command

The EXPIRES command is used to specify the expiration date after which the NODELIVERY option will be exercised.

The date is given like:

5-Jan-82
7-January-82
January-7
Tomorrow
Tuesday (next Tuesday)
+7d (in 7 days)

The default is 30 days from now.

.expires:monday
.nodelivery:dead

In the above example, if the recipient has not seen the message by Monday, it will be discarded.

MAIL is fully documented in DOC:MAIL.DOC.

Ian Burgess
Extension 2959

6.0 DEPARTMENTAL PURCHASES OF EQUIPMENT, SERVICES

& GENERAL SUPPLIES FROM PRENTICE COMPUTER CENTRE

As mentioned in Newsletter N271, the Computer Centre has altered its system of accepting orders from clients for Small Jobs and Equipment. To initiate the new system, we issued to Departments copies of the appropriate orders.

These order forms are now available from the Central Store and the details are:

- (a) Catalogue Number 17566, Equipment & Materials Order, Prentice Computer Centre.
- (b) Catalogue Number 17574, Small Job Requisition, Prentice Computer Centre.

Dal Anderson
extension 3166

7.0 CAMPUS DATA NETWORK

The installation of the Campus Data Network is proceeding quite well with about 60 services operating. This represents about 25% of the Telecom services on campus. Cabling is now complete to all buildings around the Great Court and has been extended to the Biological Sciences and Main Libraries. Work is currently proceeding on the J.D. Story Building.

Outside contract work which is arranged by Buildings and Grounds is not yet complete to allow further extension of the network at this stage, however, it is expected that this will be complete by the end of the year.

Connection charges are \$200 installation and \$180 maintenance. There is no installation charge for replacement of a current Telecom modem service and rentals will be adjusted accordingly from the date of cut over. These charges have yet to be approved by the Bursar so they may change.

When the Data Network Technician, Mr Lloyd Fischle, is working in your area, it is helpful to inform him of your expected future expansion so he can install adequate cable sizes now. This incurs no additional costs now but will ensure quicker connection of future services.

Graham Rees
extension 3288

8.0 ACCOUNTING ENQUIRIES

As from Monday 19 April, all bookings and enquiries for the Graphics Room should be directed to the batch station operators on extension 3024.

The Accounts Section will no longer close during the lunch break. The new hours for accounts will be 8am - 4pm.

Sandra Campbell
extension 3471

9.0 SPSS - VAX

Use of the keywords HIGHEST, LOWEST results in arithmetic overflow. There is no bug fix currently available; it will be corrected in our next update from SPSS.

Leonie Roberts
extension 3943

10.0 INFORMATION CONCERNING COURSES

10.1 General Notes

1. The schedule below lists courses to be offered up till the beginning of second semester. The schedule for second semester (July-Dec) will appear in the next newsletter. Please note that the Plotting/Graphics course previously advertised has been deferred till later in the year.
2. Courses conducted by the Prentice Computer Centre are free to all staff and post-graduate students of University of Queensland and Griffith University. All others must pay the prescribed fee.
3. The course "Introduction to PDP-10" includes instruction in the use of terminals, file-manipulation and editing. Users without this knowledge must enrol in the "Introduction to PDP-10" course before enrolling in any other course.
4. The schedule below may be inspected at any time by TYPEing or PRINTing the file HLP:COURSE.HLP.

10.2 Schedule

June

Introduction to PDP-10	: June 7-8 2 full days 9-12am + 2-5pm each day
Statpack	: June 9 1 full day 10-12am + 2-4pm
Introduction to PDP-10	: June 10-11 2 full days 9-12am + 2-5pm each day
Introduction to BASIC Programming	: June 16-18 3 full days 9-12am + 2-5pm each day
RUNOFF	: June 21-23 3 full days 9-12am + 2-5pm each day
SPSS	: June 29 - July 1 3 full days 9-12am + 2-5pm each day

July

VAX Conversion Course : July 2
1 full day 9-12am + 2-5pm each day

Introduction to FORTRAN : July 5-9
Programming 5 full days 9-12am + 2-5pm each day.

10.3 Enrolments And Enquiries

Please direct all enrolments and initial enquiries to extension 3018.

Barry Maher
extension 3021

11.0 EQUIPMENT FOR SALE FROM DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

PDP 11/34 System

11/34 KD11EA CPU with M9301 bootstrap, KY11-LB console interface, M7850 parity controller

1 x DL11-W serial line/clock

2 x MS11-E-J 32Kb MOS memory

1 x National NS11/34P 64Kb MOS memory

1 x Motorola MMS1117 128 Kb MOS memory

1 x DH11 16 line Asyne MUX

1 x DZ11-A 8 line Asyne MUX

1 x RK05 2.5Mb removable disc drive

1 x RK11 5Mb fixed disc drive

1 x RL02 10Mb removable disc drive

1 x TS11-DA 1600 bpi 9 tr tape drive

1 x RX11 dual floppy discs SD

The above is housed in 3 cabinets with expansion boxes, power supplies etc.

1 x LA36 decwriter

26 x RK05 disc packs

3 x RL02 disc packs

Included with each of the above items is "User manual", complete circuit diagrams and diagnostic software (on RK05 packs).

The system is a large mini-computer configuration with capabilities for online control or for time-sharing computing. The entire system has been maintained by the Prentice Computer Centre since purchase in 1978. A substantial offer is expected.

For further information contact either Peter Pamment (3226), Mike Humphreys (2839) or John Stephens (3138) in the Department of Psychology.

If you have modules and peripherals which are no longer required but may be of use to other departments or may be saleable outside please advise us by MAIL to ENGIN or MAINT or contact Maralyn Kenley on extension 3938.

Graham Rees
extension 3288

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